

LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

01/15/08

The meeting originally scheduled for 11/13/07 was cancelled due to the lack of a quorum.

Present: Wendy Young, Acting Chair
Macy Fox, Member
Joe Tuell, CCCA Fac. Dir.
Chris Ruble, *Affiliate: Liberty Point*
Jaime Marion, *Affiliate: ALT (Waynesboro)*
Justine Waits, *Affiliate-Lutheran Family Svcs.*
Jim Hall, Secretary
Mark Seymour, DMHMRSAS/Advocate
Pam White, CCCA LHRC Liaison
Kathryn Dickerson, *Affiliate: Liberty Point*
Trey Lawhorne, *Affiliate: Shenandoah House/Intercept*
Teresa Kennedy, *Affiliate: Family Preservation Svcs.*

Absent: Deborah Atno-Shelton, Chair

Paul Krikau, Member

Guest: Mark Stevens, VOPA

Minutes Prepared by: Pamela White, CCCA Liaison

Approved by:


Jim Hall, Secretary

CURRENT AGENDA	FUTURE AGENDA
1. Call to Order; Review of Minutes	1. Call to Order; Review of Minutes
2. General: Affiliated Programs	2. General: Affiliated Programs
3. Advocate's Report	3. Advocate's Report
4. CCCA Facility Director's Report	4. CCCA Facility Director's Report
5. Adjourn	5. The next regular CCCA LHRC meeting has been scheduled for 03/18/08 @ 6:00pm.

1. Wendy Young-Acting Chair called the meeting to order, welcoming all present with roundtable introductions and a review of the CCCA LHRC minutes of 09/18/07.

Action: The CCCA LHRC minutes of 09/18/07 were approved as presented.

2. **Annual Reports** from the affiliated programs presented include:
 - a. Justine Waits-*Affiliate: Lutheran Family Svcs.* presented the 2007 Annual Report for her program. She reported that human rights training had been completed by staff. Ms. Waits also noted that there had been no patient complaints received and added that the culture of human rights was being incorporated into the program through the orientation, training, and supervisory process of all employees. She closed by stated that the program did not have any licensing citations.
 - b. Trey Lawhorne, *Affiliate: Shenandoah House/Intercept* presented the 2007 Annual Report for his program. He reported that during a Licensure visit in December 2007, two issues were identified, addressed, and resolved that same day. He added that the human rights element was very strong and that efforts were focused on resolving issues promptly at the lowest level.

Action: The CCCA LHRC thanked the affiliate representatives for their Annual Reports, which were accepted as presented.

General discussion items from the affiliated programs that were represented include:

- c. Jaime Marion-*Affiliate: Augusta League of Therapists (Waynesboro)* commented that the program was growing and currently serving approximately 25-30 families.
- d. Teresa Kennedy-*Affiliate: Family Preservation Svcs.* reported that services appeared to be growing and she estimated that 25 staff had been hired.

Action: The CCCA LHRC thanked the affiliate representatives for their comments and updates.

- e. Chris Ruble-*Affiliate: Liberty Point* presented the program's Policy #509 "Use of Video Cameras for Safety/Security Surveillance" for review, stating that the cameras were only to be used in common public areas and would have no audio. He added that plans were to have the system working by March 2008. Mark Seymour-Advocate commented that cameras used as a positive safety measure was not uncommon. Mr. Ruble also requested CCCA LHRC affiliation for a new venture—Liberty Point Group Home.

Action: The CCCA LHRC approved Liberty Point's Policy #509 as presented. The CCCA LHRC also approved the expansion of services to include Liberty Point Group Home.

3. Mr. Seymour presented the Advocates Report, noting that policies are to be updated by March 1st for compliance with the *Rules & Regulations to Assure the Rights of Individuals Receiving Services from Providers Licensed, Funded, or Operated by the Va. Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation & Substance Abuse Services (DMHMRSAS)*. He added that there was much debate over proposed new legislation during this term of the General Assembly.
4. Joe Tuell-Facility Director presented the Director's Report, highlighting statistics from Calendar Year 2007. He reported that the Average Daily Census (ADC) has been stable over the past 2 years. Mr. Tuell stated that while admissions continue to increase, the level of patient psychosis has increased as well. He announced that DMHMRSAS had applied for and received a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant, which would be used to pilot the reduction of the usage of seclusion and restraint at two DMHMRSAS facilities: Central State Hospital and CCCA. Mr. Tuell commented that efforts were supportive of trauma informed care and played the DVD entitled "Behind Closed Doors: the Story of Four Women struggling to reconcile violence within the psychiatric system." The film is a documentary of their experiences which began in their youth.